



Submit by Monday 5 December 2016

DARWIN INITIATIVE APPLICATION FOR GRANT FOR ROUND 23: STAGE 2Please read the [Guidance](#) before completing this form. Where no word limits are given, the size of the box is a guide to the amount of information required.

Information to be extracted to the database is highlighted blue. Blank cells may render your application ineligible

24-006 ref 3647

ELIGIBILITY**1. Name and address of organisation**

(NB: Notification of results will be by email to the Project Leader in Question 6)

Applicant Organisation Name:	Fauna & Flora International
Address:	The David Attenborough Building, Pembroke Street
City and Postcode:	Cambridge CB2 3QZ
Country:	U.K.
Email:	
Phone:	

2. Stage 1 reference and Project title

Stage 1 Ref: 3647	Title (max 10 words): Enhancing forest biodiversity and community resilience to Tajikistan's changing climate
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3. Project description (not exceeding 50 words)

Local communities and forest service will be motivated, empowered and supported to take collaborative action to conserve, restore and sustainably use the globally important fruit-and-nut forest at two sites in Tajikistan. This results in improved livelihoods, through participatory NTFP market development, and greater resilience to climate change and other shocks.

4. Country(ies)

Which eligible host country(ies) will your project be working in? You may copy and paste this table if you need to provide details of more than four countries.

Country 1: Tajikistan	Country 2:
Country 3:	Country 4:

5. Project dates, and budget summary

Start date: 1 April 2017	End date: 31 March 2021			Duration: 4 years	
Darwin funding request (Apr – Mar)	2017/18 £98,324	2018/19 £114,028	2019/20 £86,432	2020/2021 £84,924	Total £383,708
Proposed (confirmed & unconfirmed) matched funding as % of total Project cost					28%

6. Partners in project. Please provide details of the partners in this project and provide a CV for the individuals listed. You may copy and paste this table if necessary.

Details	Project Leader	FFI Tajikistan	Project Partner 1
Surname	Hotham	Gulamadshoev	Mamadaliyeva
Forename (s)	Paul	Ubayd	Muhabbat
Post held	Regional Director	Director	Director
Organisation (if different to above)	Fauna & Flora International	FFI Tajikistan	Zan va Zamin
Department	Eurasia Region		n/a
Telephone			
Email			

Details	Project Partner 2	Project Partner 4	Project Partner 5
Surname	Boboev	Jalolov	Yoramadov
Forename (s)	Mario	Saidakbar	Mahmud
Post held	Director	Director	Director
Organisation (if different to above)	Ganji Tabiat	Muminabad Forestry Management Unit	Dashtijum Forestry Management Unit
Department	Kulob Botanical Garden		
Telephone			
Email			

7. Has your organisation been awarded a Darwin Initiative award before (for the purposes of this question, being a partner does not count)? If so, please provide details of the most recent awards (up to 6 examples).

Reference No	Project Leader	Title
23-028	Rob Bensted - Smith	Connecting coastal communities for integrated seascape management in Atlantida, Honduras
23-003	Jenny Daltry	Eradicating invasive species from the highest priority Caribbean island
23-027	Jackson Frechette	Cultural and economic incentives for endangered species conservation in Cambodia
22-019	Alison Mollon	Supporting community conserved areas in Uganda for biodiversity and livelihoods
21-021	Sophie Benbow	Enhancement of wellbeing and conservation in Cape Verde's biodiversity hotspots

8a. If you answered 'NO' to Question 7 please complete Question 8a, b and c.

If you answered 'YES', please go to Question 9 (and delete the boxes for Q8a, 8b and 8c)

9. Please list all the partners involved (including the Lead Institution) and explain their roles and responsibilities in the project. Describe the extent of their involvement at all stages, including project development. This section should illustrate the capacity of

partners to be involved in the project. Please provide written evidence of partnerships.

Please copy/delete boxes for more or fewer partnerships.

<p>Lead institution and website:</p> <p>Fauna & Flora International (FFI)</p> <p>www.fauna-flora.org</p>	<p>Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to lead the project): (max 200 words)</p> <p>FFI has worked in Central Asia for 18 years, delivering a variety of conservation activities, with a strong focus on capacity building and engaging local communities. FFI has 8 years' experience in Tajikistan promoting community based conservation and sustainable use of the globally important fruit and nut forests. FFI UK will provide technical input and guidance on collaborative and sustainable forest management, biodiversity monitoring and conservation, and sustainable livelihoods, bringing experience from Kyrgyzstan, and working with partners to build their capacity as necessary.</p> <p>FFI UK will take overall responsibility for effective project management, delivery and monitoring, working with host country personnel to ensure successful implementation.</p> <p>FFI Tajikistan will be the key coordinating centre, liaising with partner organisations, specialists, and other stakeholders, and will be closely involved in facilitating all elements of the project. The team will be responsible for the Participatory Market System Development (PMSD), establishing savings groups and stakeholder fora, and coordinating the climate impact assessment, species action plans and final dissemination workshop.</p> <p>FFI Tajikistan has grown in experience over the last five years with a strong network of contacts, good relations with government, NGOs, and academia, and the ability to bring them together to achieve project outcomes.</p>
<p>Have you included a Letter of Support from this institution?</p>	<p>Yes</p>

<p>Partner Name and website where available:</p> <p>Zan va Zamin <i>Women & Earth</i></p> <p>http://zanvazamin.tj/en/</p>	<p>Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project): (max 200 words)</p> <p>Zan va Zamin (ZvZ) has been working closely with FFI in the project area for six years, delivering awareness-raising seminars and events, livelihoods skills training for women, and beekeeping. ZvZ were involved in the development of the overall conceptual model and project design, and actively participated in the earlier PMSD and climate adaptation planning for Childukhtaron.</p> <p>ZvZ has extensive experience in development, particularly agriculture and market access support, with a special focus on women. Recently, ZvZ successfully delivered agro-biodiversity initiatives¹, including collecting and integrating traditional knowledge and working with local people to conserve the diversity of varieties including fruit trees. ZvZ were one of the 25 UNDP Equator Prize winners in 2012, for their outstanding work on 'local development solutions for people, nature, and resilient communities', and Special Recognition winners for 'Food Security and Agriculture'.</p> <p>ZvZ will have a lead role in collecting local/traditional knowledge on agro-biodiversity, and will be involved in the climate change assessments and PMSD process. They will then have a key role in delivering the producers' associations and the training in processing and marketing.</p> <p>ZvZ will also actively contribute to management and decision making as a key member of the project steering committee.</p>
<p>Have you included a Letter of Support from this institution?</p>	<p>Yes</p>

¹ This film illustrates the interest and achievements of project partners Zan va Zamin and Ganji Tabiat in agro-biodiversity conservation <https://www.christensenfund.org/programs/central-asia/#/experience-15685>

<p>Partner Name and website where available:</p> <p>Ganji Tabiat</p> <p>http://www.ganjitabiat.tj/en/</p>	<p>Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project): (max 200 words)</p> <p>The NGO Ganji Tabiat, linked to Kulob Botanic Gardens in south Tajikistan, and is led by the knowledgeable and active father and son team of Tillo and Mario Boboev. Both are trained and experienced botanists with a passion for conservation. Working with FFI, Ganji Tabiat has conducted surveys of threatened fruit trees, supported forestry units to establish monitoring plots, collected wild seeds for propagation, provided scientific and technical guidance, and run school awareness events. They contributed to development of the overall conceptual model and design of the project, and participated in climate adaptation planning for Childukhtaron.</p> <p>Ganji Tabiat have extensive experience in plant conservation, particularly rare species and local varieties, including fruit and nut trees, and are familiar with the project sites and stakeholders.</p> <p>With technical guidance from FFI, Ganji Tabiat will play a key role in the habitat, species and agro-biodiversity surveys, the participatory monitoring and the support to forest leaseholders to protect trees in their plots. They will deliver some of the awareness raising and be involved in the Species Action Plans, climate change components and the community nurseries. As a member of the project steering committee, Ganji Tabiat will actively contribute to adaptive management and decisions.</p>
<p>Have you included a Letter of Support from this institution?</p>	<p>Yes</p>

<p>Partner Name and website where available:</p> <p>Muminabad Forestry Management Unit</p>	<p>Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project): (max 200 words)</p> <p>Muminabad Forestry Management Unit (FSU) is the local division of the Agency for Forestry under the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan, responsible for the management and protection of Childukhtaron reserve and forestry. The FSU has 30 staff, mainly forestry engineers and foresters/rangers, and a tree nursery. FFI has previously provided priority training and equipment for the team to strengthen the capacity of the FSU to deliver its two main functions of forest protection and restoration. The FSU controls the use of the forest for the 234 households in the 11 communities within the reserve territory.</p> <p>FFI Tajikistan has a good relationship with the FSU director and other key personnel, and an understanding of the team's strengths and limitations, from our six years of working at Childukhtaron. Representatives of the FSU engaged in developing the programme's conceptual model and were active in the climate adaptation planning and PMSD workshops.</p> <p>As the organisation responsible for the Childukhtaron Reserve, the FSU will be involved in the stakeholder forum, participatory monitoring and development of climate-proofed reforestation plans, and have a lead role in delivering the practical conservation actions of nurseries and tree planting. They will be a member of the project steering committee.</p>
<p>Have you included a Letter of Support from this institution?</p>	<p>Yes</p>

<p>Partner Name and website where available:</p> <p>Dashtijum Forestry Management Unit</p>	<p>Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project): (max 200 words)</p> <p>Dashtijum Forestry Management Unit (FSU) is the local department of the Agency for Forestry under the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan, responsible for the management and protection of Dashtijum reserve and forestry. The FSU has 27 staff, mainly forestry engineers and foresters/rangers, and a tree nursery. FFI has previously provided priority training and equipment for the team to strengthen the capacity of the FSU to deliver its two main functions of forest protection and restoration. The FSU controls the use of the forest for the 461 households from the 11 communities at Dashtijum.</p> <p>FFI Tajikistan has a good relationship with the director, and an understanding of the team's strengths and limitations. Dashtijum is a more recent site for FFI, but the director has demonstrated particular enthusiasm for collaboration and shown initiative in delivering conservation actions. The FSU was consulted on the project concept and activities for their input.</p> <p>As the organisation responsible for Dashtijum forest, the FSU will be involved in the stakeholder forum, participatory monitoring and development of climate-proofed reforestation plans, and have a lead role in delivering the practical conservation actions of nurseries and tree planting. They will be a member of the project steering committee.</p>	
<p>Have you included a Letter of Support from this institution?</p>		<p>Yes</p>

10. Key Project personnel

Please identify the key project personnel on this project, their role and what % of their time they will be working on the project. Please provide 1 page CVs for these staff, or a 1 page job description or Terms of Reference for roles yet to be filled. Please include more rows where necessary.

Name (First name, surname)	Role	Organisation	% time on project	1 page CV or job description attached?
Paul Hotham	Project Leader	FFI UK	10%	Yes
Programme manager, Central Asia (currently being recruited)	Project Manager	FFI UK	20%	Yes
Ubayd Gulamadshoev	National project manager	FFI Tajikistan	40%	Yes
Muqaddas Milibekova	Project coordinator, livelihoods	FFI Tajikistan	60%	Yes
Mario Boboev	Botanical and forest specialist	Ganji Tabiat	30%	Yes
Muhabbat Mamadalieva	Technical and management oversight	Zan va Zamin	20%	Yes

Nigina Kayumova	Community coordinator	Zan va Zamin	25%	Yes
Helen Anthem	Sustainable livelihoods specialist	FFI UK	4%	Yes
TBC	Biodiversity specialist	FFI UK	4%	Yes

11. Problem the project is trying to address

Please describe the problem your project is trying to address in terms of biodiversity and its relationship with poverty. For example, what are the drivers of loss of biodiversity that the project will attempt to address? Why are they relevant, for whom? How did you identify these problems?

If your project is working on an area of biodiversity or biodiversity-development linkages that has had limited attention (both in the Darwin Initiative portfolio and in conservation in general) please give details.

(Max 300 words)

Childukhtaron (14,600ha) and Dashtijum (50,100ha; 13,400ha forest) nature reserves are identified in Tajikistan's NBSAP as two of the country's three most valuable walnut-maple forest sites, with a rich variety of wild fruit and nut trees, including pear *Pyrus tadshikistanica* (CR, endemic), *Pyrus korshinskyi* (CR), almond *Amygdalus bucharica* (VU) and apple *Malus sieversii* (VU). These globally significant forests and unique agro-biodiversity are increasingly important as genetic reservoirs, as climate-related impacts threaten domesticated varieties grown worldwide.

The forests are also essential to the livelihoods of 700 resident households. Mean income in both areas is below \$1.25/person/day (SDG extreme poverty level) with limited income-generating opportunities available. Collection and sale of NTFPs is a significant and vital livelihood strategy for both women and men.

Only 3% of Tajikistan is now forested, and fruit-and-nut woodlands are under severe pressure from firewood collection, hay-making, livestock grazing and over-harvesting of some resources. The habitat is extremely degraded, with declining diversity and little natural regeneration. The forest is state-owned but the forest service lacks the capacity to manage it adequately in collaboration with local people, who have user rights but do not perceive that they have a stake or role in conserving the resource. Project partners explored these drivers and obstacles in a programme Theory of Change.

The World Bank identified Tajikistan as the country most vulnerable to climate change in Europe and Central Asia, with very low adaptive capacity. The steeply-sloping project area suffers from landslides, extreme weather events including heavy spring rains, summer drought, and pests; all predicted to worsen.

FFI and local stakeholders developed a climate adaptation strategy for Childukhtaron (2013) and participatory market mapping (2015). This project will address identified problems to strengthen ecosystem resilience and communities' urgent need for financial resilience, access to growing markets for fruit and nut products, and secondary processing.

12. Biodiversity Conventions, Treaties and Agreements

Your project must support the objectives of one or more of the agreements listed below. Please indicate which agreement(s) will be supported and describe which objectives your project will address and how. Note: projects supporting more than one will not achieve a higher score.

Convention On Biological Diversity (CBD)	Yes
Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS)	No
International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (ITPGRFA)	Yes
Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES)	No
Global Goals for Sustainable Development	Yes

12b. Biodiversity Conventions

Please detail how your project will contribute to the objectives of the agreement(s) your project is targeting and how your project will help to achieve the Global Goals for Sustainable Development (SDGs). You should refer to Articles or Programmes of Work here. Note: No additional significance will be ascribed for projects that report contributions to more than one agreement

(Max 500 words)

This project would safeguard the future of two CR wild pear species, as well as the genetic diversity of ancestors of the domesticated apple and almond (both VU). Slow-growing and often clonal, domesticated trees are particularly vulnerable to novel pests and reliant on the diversity of their wild relatives. Through tree-planting, and by putting in place the plans and skills needed for sustainable management, the project would make a key contribution to the **CBD**: to Article 8 (*in situ* conservation) and through the Aichi targets 7 (sustainable forest management), 12 (prevention of extinction) and 13 (maintaining genetic diversity of cultivated species).

The project would achieve this by developing participatory management practices and skills, empowering existing forest users to develop their livelihoods sustainably and to influence state forest management. This approach will contribute substantially to Article 10 of the CBD (sustainable and equitable use) and to Aichi targets 1 (awareness of sustainable principles), 4 (sustainable production methods) and 18 (respect for traditional knowledge). With a focus on climate change adaptation, the project will also ensure that climate resilience also takes into accounts the needs of women and local communities (Target 14).

The need for this work within Tajikistan is recognised in the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan: the project will directly contribute to priorities 3.11 (Conservation of Mid-Mountain Mesophyllic Forest Ecosystems), 3.16 (Conservation of Agro-ecosystem Biodiversity) and 3.18 (*in situ* Species Conservation in Natural Habitats). Taking an ecosystem approach and looking to preserve diversity *in situ*, the project further contributes to the CBD Expanded Programme of Work on Forest Biological Diversity (Goals 1.1-1.4, 2.1-2.3).

The community focus of the project – helping the harvesters and processors of Non-Timber Forest Products (NTFPs) to improve their livelihoods – meets the core objective of the **ITPGRFA** (the conservation and sustainable use of plant genetic resources and the fair and equitable sharing of their benefits) and the project is structured to support the key articles 5 (understanding and conservation of genetic resources), 6 (sustainable use), 8 (technical assistance) and 9 (ensuring farmer's rights).

Residents of the project area earn below the **SDG** absolute poverty level. This project will contribute to relieving this (SDG 1.1) by working with both men and women (1.2, 5.5, 5a: equal relief of poverty and resource rights) to improve productivity and market access (2.3, 2a, 2c), community management of resources (1.4) and resilience to climate change (1.5, 2.4 and Goal 13: urgent climate adaptation action). As noted above it will also preserve genetic diversity for cultivated species (2.5), putting the plans and capacity in place to manage the project sites sustainably (12.8, 15.1, 15.2, 1.54) and equitably (15.6).

12c. Is any liaison proposed with the CBD / ABS / ITPGRFA / CITES / SDG focal point in the host country?

Yes No if yes, please give details:

FFI Tajikistan director, Ubayd Gulamadshoev, has held preliminary discussions with the CBD focal point Mr. Neimatullo Safarov about the proposed project. Mr Safarov is supportive of the project and we agreed to stay in touch and share information, including for inclusion in the Tajik national reporting to CBD.

13. Methodology

Describe the methods and approach you will use to achieve your intended outcomes and impact. Provide information on how you will undertake the work (materials and methods) and how you will manage the work (roles and responsibilities, project management tools etc.).

(Max 500 words – this may be a repeat from Stage 1, but you may update or refine as necessary. Tracked changes are **not** required.)

The project's approach is to empower and incentivise local forest users, specifically collectors of NTFPs, and the forest service to work together to conserve forest agro-biodiversity, using market incentives and processes to drive and sustain biodiversity conservation initiatives. The methodology is based on Participatory Market System Development (PMSD) approach developed by Practical Action Consulting (PAC) and proven to make markets more inclusive, reduce poverty and promote sustainability. In 2015 PAC supported FFI to initiate PMSD at Childukhtaron, training FFI and partners and facilitating first steps in the process, including participatory market mapping for dried fruits. This identified potential actions to make the market work better for project communities, such as cooperatives, enhanced drying techniques and planting trees. PMSD for NTFPs will deliver sustainable livelihoods and incentives for greater engagement with forest conservation, thus benefitting people and biodiversity.

The likely impacts of climate change will inform all actions, through the use of participatory climate adaptation planning, which will explore and support appropriate actions for more resilient forests, agro-biodiversity and local communities.

FFI will manage the project, coordinating activities through FFI Tajikistan team, with Ganji Tabiat involved on biodiversity surveys, plans and monitoring, ZvZ on livelihoods and awareness, and forest service implementing practical reforestation actions.

1: Develop strong **information and evidence base**, incorporating scientific and traditional knowledge, needed for collaborative conservation and sustainable use.

- Baseline surveys for sites and key species;
- Explore likely climate change impacts on forest/trees;
- Species Action Plans for three Red-List trees;
- Participatory forest monitoring;
- Disseminate learning to local/national stakeholders.

2: **Incentivise local market actors** (women and men) to engage in the conservation of forest agro-biodiversity, by enhancing value of wild-harvested fruit and nut products. Women collect and process fruits but currently men have greater role in selling.

- Facilitate PMSD process and empower and support community members to establish producer cooperatives; local coordinators actively encourage inclusion of women and marginalised groups;
- Improve access to growing markets (e.g. dried fruit, compote, oils) and product

quality/value through cooperatives and stronger links with traders/processors;

- Local women's saving groups to build buffers against shocks;
- Explore potential for overseas markets and innovative products (FFI has links with interested private-sector buyer);
- Participatory Impact Assessment.

3: Using the cooperatives as a mechanism to engage, support joint work by community forest users and forest service units to implement **collaborative forest management** that sustains agro-biodiversity and increases resilience to climate change.

- Increase awareness of climate change, agro-biodiversity and sustainable harvesting;
- Strategic, climate-proofed, reforestation plans for both sites;
- Stakeholder forum to enable discussions on forest management, conservation and sustainable use issues;
- Support local stakeholders to grow native fruit and nut trees for planting in forest and gardens, promoting diversity of species and local varieties to maintain agro-biodiversity;
- Support forest service to plant 400,000 native trees (10+ species) in protected and strategic locations to reinforce natural populations;
- Work with local forest leaseholders to protect trees in their forest plots, through fencing and other means.

14. Change Expected

Detail the expected changes this work will deliver. You should identify what will change and who will benefit a) in the short-term and b) in the long-term.

(Max 300 words)

a)

Members of 300 forest-user households (60% women) will have enhanced understanding of fruit and nut markets and product quality standards, and improved links to other market actors (processors, traders). Training, equipment and producers' cooperatives will improve product quality and diversity, while ensuring more value is created and retained locally. This will drive an income increase of 10% for 120 households (c.780 people).

Forest users will report increased stake in sustainable management, with at least 25% of 700 households more closely engaged in forest management, through joint fora for forest service - community stakeholders; participatory monitoring (tracking forest condition and composition); or growing fruit and nut trees and planting in their forest plots. They will also be more effectively protecting the trees in their plots (reflecting increased value), securing future agro-biodiversity and livelihood benefits.

Forestry staff will have better understanding of forest biodiversity, potential climate change impacts, agro-biodiversity value and importance of sustainable use; forest planting and biodiversity action plans will demonstrate that this knowledge is put into practice. 400,000 trees, including Red List species, will be planted to enhance forest condition and mitigate climate risks such as soil erosion and landslides.

b)

Forest diversity and resilience will be increased through strategic planting and protection, using more resilient native trees and locations appropriate for species and climate predictions (e.g. hotter, drier summers). The plans and participatory monitoring will be a legacy, sustained by the forest service. Local people will have improved well-being and increased incentives and stake in forest management from enhanced fruit-and-nut market system.

All members of local communities, approximately 5,000 people, will benefit from more resilient and productive forests, providing agro-biodiversity goods and ecosystem services. The model can be rolled out to other villages. Genetic diversity of crop relatives will be preserved for global benefit.

15. Pathway to poverty alleviation

Please describe how your project will benefit poor people living in low-income countries. Give details of who will benefit and the number of beneficiaries expected to be impacted by your project. The number of communities is insufficient detail – number of households should be the largest unit used. If possible, indicate the number of women who will be impacted.

(Max 300 words)

The project will address the three dimensions of well-being: material, relational and subjective, leading to positive change for 300 poor forest-user households benefiting at least 1,500 people.

Local NTFP collectors will derive greater benefit from the market, including increased income, due to improved understanding of products and quality standards, enhanced confidence, networks and equipment. 300 people (180 women) will have new skills and 120 (at least 60 women) will benefit from being members of active producer cooperatives able to pool resources and bargain with traders collectively at scale. The PMSD process ensures marginalised stakeholders are empowered to engage, building knowledge and confidence, and improving relationships with other market actors. Changing the market system to benefit the poor will have wider impacts beyond the project's direct beneficiaries.

We recognise the different roles, responsibilities, needs and aspirations of men and women and will tailor activities accordingly, addressing the barriers to participation of women and vulnerable groups. ZvZ has valuable experience in empowering and supporting rural women to increase their voice and confidence, develop skills, and exploit their rights to land and resources to address multiple dimensions of poverty. Savings groups are also targeted at reducing women's vulnerability. All data collected will be disaggregated by gender and wealth class, and will be used to inform and adapt project interventions to ensure the inclusion of women and other marginalised households, as well as monitor impacts on different groups.

The stakeholder fora will also increase local people's voice and role in forest management, and improve their relationship with the forest service. It will enable input to debate and decision making, and active participation in reforestation, protection and monitoring.

Overall, resilience to climate change and other shocks will be enhanced through increased financial and food security, improved relationships and social cohesion, and more robust forest ecosystems.

16. Exit strategy

State whether or not the project will reach a stable and sustainable end point. If the project is not discrete, but is part of a progressive approach, give details of the exit strategy and show how relevant activities will be continued to secure the benefits from the project. Where individuals receive advanced training, for example, what will happen should that individual leave?

(Max 200 words)

The project supports a progressive approach to build capacity of local stakeholders to effectively conserve and sustainably use the forests: ensuring communities and forest authorities are empowered to protect their natural assets, using market incentives to sustain

biodiversity conservation initiatives, for long-term sustainability without strong dependence on external financial support.

Certain activities will be completed within the project life-time, providing solid foundations for ongoing forest conservation: improved information base, species action plans and reforestation strategies. Increased collaborative working between forest service and communities, including participatory monitoring and nurseries, lead to improved relationships and basis for on-going cooperation.

The 400,000 native diverse trees strategically planted by the project will continue to deliver benefits for biodiversity and climate resilience, as well as ecosystem goods (fruits) and services (erosion control) to local people.

The sustainable livelihood activities will continue to secure benefits after the project, including the locally-led producers' cooperatives and savings groups. By facilitating and empowering women and men to engage more profitably with locally-relevant market systems, based on product availability, sustainability and market demand, the resultant benefits are much more likely to persist post-project.

Additionally, project partners have a long-term presence and commitment to support conservation and livelihoods at these sites.

17a. Harmonisation

Is this a new initiative or a development of existing work (funded through any source)? Please give details (Max 200 words)

This is a development of our previous work. FFI and partners have been working at these sites on small-scale conservation and awareness raising projects for a number of years with a recent focus on rare and threatened tree species. Achievements include rare tree and mammal surveys, essential equipment and training for the forest service, tree nurseries and small-scale reforestation, community fast-growing tree plots, bee-keeping, eco-education, community festivals and awareness seminars. This project will build on this earlier work, benefiting from our understanding of the local context and relationships with the forest service and community, but taking activity to a different level with a broader, more integrated, approach to meeting the conservation and livelihoods challenges at the two sites.

Childukhtaron was a pilot site under FFI's climate adaptation planning project, and the project will build on the information collected and the adaptation strategies identified under this participatory initiative. As part of a recent one-year grant, a participatory market map was developed for the dried fruit and nut chain and possible actions identified, and the Darwin Initiative grant will enable us to move forward with this exciting approach.

17b. Are you aware of any other individuals/organisations/projects carrying out or applying for funding for similar work? Yes

If yes, please give details explaining similarities and differences explaining how your work will be additional to tis work and what attempts have been/will be made to co-operate with and learn lessons from such work for mutual benefits.

Currently there are no other organisations focused on the fruit and nut forest sites, although GIZ is active more widely in the forestry sector and FFI has and will continue to co-operate with them, in particular learning from their efforts to introduce collaborative forest management approaches. Our approach to incentivise local people to support conservation by enhancing the markets for NTFPs is unique in Tajikistan.

A NAMA (Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions) Support Project is being planned for Tajikistan, to be implemented by the Government with the support of GIZ. The main focus of this initiative is on forest renewal for climate change mitigation (planting trees to act a carbon sink), but also aims to maintain biodiversity and provide jobs in reforestation for local people. FFI has met GIZ to discuss the planned project and possible areas for cooperation. With FFI's strong local presence and long history of working in this area, we anticipate contributing and influencing the project to deliver greater benefits for biodiversity and agro-biodiversity, for example by including rare and threatened tree species in the planting mix.

Save the Children are running a successful programme supporting women's savings groups, which started in 2012 and in 2014 extended to new sites including Dashtijum. FFI's project coordinator has contacted Save the Children to learn lessons from their work which we will use when taking this activity forward in Childukhtaron.

18. Ethics

Outline your approach to meeting the Darwin Initiative's key principles for research ethics as outlined in the [Guidance](#).

(Max 300 words)

FFI actively seeks to conserve biodiversity in ways that enhance the wellbeing of poor, vulnerable or marginalised people who are dependent upon, or live adjacent to, natural resources. The FFI Conservation, Livelihoods and Governance team work across the organisation to support this ambition and will be specifically engaged to provide guidance to this project. FFI is also a founding member of the [Conservation Initiative on Human Rights](#) which promotes increased integration of human rights in conservation. Our position statement on conservation, livelihoods and governance is available [here](#)².

The PMSD approach empowers and supports local people to take control of their situation, by building on strengths, and developing capacity and relationships, to make positive changes.

FFI believes conservation solutions lie in local hands and works in partnership with local stakeholders. The project includes strong leadership and participation from the main partners and in-country FFI team, and was developed with input from both national and local stakeholders. The project responds to issues identified by the target communities, and activities will be undertaken with the consent and involvement of the communities.

FFI supports use of the sustainable livelihoods approach as a framework and set of principles to understand the reality and complexity of people's lives and livelihoods.

FFI's activities are based on sound science and FFI aims for all its research to conform to the highest possible ethical and legal standards. Ecological data collected will be made freely available and lodged with the Forest Service and National Academy of Science. Socio-economic data will only be collected with the informed consent of the subject and individuals will not be identified when the data is made public.

FFI takes seriously health and safety of all project staff, regardless of nationality, and will ensure risk assessments are undertaken in line with institutional policy.

19. Raising awareness of the potential worth of biodiversity

If your project contains an element of communications, knowledge sharing and/or dissemination please provide a description of your intended audience, how you intend to engage them, what the expected products/materials will be and what you expect to achieve as a result. For example, are you expecting to directly influence policy in your host country or is your project a community advocacy project to support better management of biodiversity?

² <http://www.fauna-flora.org/initiatives/livelihoods-and-governance-library/#approach>

(Max 300 words)

The project contains activities specifically aimed at increasing knowledge and awareness of local communities, with twenty events at the project sites including seminars, school activities and community festivals. Topics are biodiversity, climate change, agro-biodiversity and sustainable harvesting, with an emphasis on the value of biodiversity and direct and indirect benefits and services relevant to people's everyday lives. The PMSD workshops will also emphasise that the value chains are based on forest products, and hence the importance of protecting the source and harvesting sustainably to ensure long-term benefits. Together with other project activities, encouraging practical conservation actions, these communications will promote better management of biodiversity.

Local media such as newspapers and radio will be used to communicate project activities, achievements and messages with a wider audience at and beyond the target communities who generally have very little access to information.

The project will demonstrate and raise awareness of the role market approaches can play in forest conservation and sustainable livelihoods. A learning document will be produced and disseminated through various fora, including [PCLG](#)³ and FFI's [Livelihoods & Governance library](#). Achievements and lessons learnt will be shared with PAC and other development NGOs, specifically the use of PMSD, historically a predominantly development focussed approach, to promote biodiversity conservation.

The project approach of collaborative forest management, and the use of market incentives, is of interest to the wider forest sector policy debate. The results and lessons learnt will be disseminated through i) the steering committee, including Forestry Agency representatives; ii) FFI and partners' participation in conferences; iii) project reports and iv) end-of-project dissemination workshop. This will allow the project to positively influence forest management practice to encourage greater and more meaningful engagement with local people, and hence indirectly benefit the large number of rural residents who live in and/or depend on forest areas.

20. Capacity building

If your project will support capacity building at institutional or individual levels, please provide details of what form this will take and how this capacity will be secured for the future.

(Max 300 words)

The project supports capacity building at institutional and individual levels. At the institutional level, the project will develop the knowledge and expertise of the local forest service units by providing data, increasing understanding (for example of the likely impacts of climate change) and jointly developing strategic climate-proofed reforestation plans and species action plans for Red List trees. Additionally the forest units will be supported to engage local communities in forest management, thus meeting the Government's stated policy of collaborative forest management – this is something the Dashtijum forestry director has identified as an area where they require capacity support. Improving the capacity of government is important to help foster ownership and support for integrated long-term conservation and community projects, with Tajikistan's national institutional capacity currently relatively low and reliant on external actors.

Working with FFI to implement the project will build the capacity of the NGO partners, ZvZ and Ganji Tabiat, both in technical skills and project management. Learning-by-doing with technical guidance from FFI specialists will develop skills in survey design, climate change assessments,

³ <http://povertyandconservation.info/>

participatory monitoring, analysing information, writing reports and PMSD. In addition, capacity for project planning and adaptive management will be strengthened.

At the individual level, FFI will increase the capacity of local forest users in target communities to adopt new techniques and enterprise development skills. 300 local collectors will receive training in processing techniques and markets, and support to use their new knowledge and skills, to improve NTFP-based livelihoods. By supporting and reinforcing training throughout the project period the aim is that new techniques and ideas will be retained for the long term.

Project actions will also develop individuals' self-confidence, particularly of women, empowering them to take a more active role in activities outside the sphere of home, and increasing their voice within the community and with authorities.

21. Access to project information

Please describe the project's open access plan and detail any specific costs you are seeking from Darwin to fund this.

(Max 250 words)

The project will generate biological data about the site, from the baseline surveys and subsequent monitoring. This will be organised and stored in a suitable simple electronic database which will be lodged with the Forestry Agency, and shared with the institutes of the National Academy of Science. FFI will also keep a copy of the database, ensuring it is appropriately backed-up and documented. A baseline survey report will be produced, in English, Russian and Tajik, which will be freely available to stakeholders and other interested parties. A map of the sites will also be produced and made available, which will be particularly valuable as current maps date from the Soviet era.

Project reports, such as the monitoring strategy and PMSD outputs, will be translated into Tajik, making them accessible to a wider regional audience and usable by forestry staff and community organisations on-the-ground. Copies of the reports, with accessible executive summaries, will be presented at project dissemination workshops and be given to relevant government agencies, academic institutions and interested NGOs.

A project page will be developed and maintained on FFI's website, with appropriate reports appended. Information from the project will also feature on the websites of project partners ZvZ and Ganji Tabiat. The project team and associated specialists will produce both popular and scholarly articles, particularly for publication in Tajik and Russian language media or journals, to aid dissemination.

22. Match funding (co-finance)

a) Secured

Provide details of all funding successfully levered (and identified in the Budget) towards the costs of the project, including any income from other public bodies, private sponsorship, donations, trusts, fees or trading activity.

Confirmed:

- Three year commitment from Global Trees Campaign of which £XXX per year will be match-funding for Darwin Initiative project costs (total £XXX).
- FFI will provide in-kind support towards salary costs of FFI UK staff and FFI Tajikistan accountant: over four years this totals £XXX.
- ZvZ will provide in-kind support of office facilities (rent, utilities etc.): £XXX over the course of the project.

22b) Unsecured

Provide details of any matched funding where an application has been submitted, or that you intend applying for during the course of the project. This could include matched funding from the private sector, charitable organisations or other public sector schemes.

Date applied for	Donor organisation	Amount	Comments
31 st August 2016	The Christensen Fund	£XXX	Application is by a two stage process. Initial informal feedback has been encouraging.
Not yet able to apply	Global Trees Campaign	£XXX	For Year 4
N/A	Forest service (in-kind)	£XXX	Will confirm amount once Darwin Initiative grant received.
Intend applying during course of project	Various Trusts and Foundations	£XXX	This is £XXX p.a. for Years 2-4. FFI has a strong fundraising team and past experience indicates this level of match-funding can be raised.

22c) None

If you are not intending to seek matched funding for this project, please explain why.

(max 100 words)

23) Risk

Explain how you have considered the risks and threats that may be relevant to the success of this project, including the risks of fraud or bribery.

(max 200 words)

FFI has a stringent project approval process that ensures projects are reviewed for quality, feasibility, strategic relevance and risk before being approved. Risk factors reviewed may include the team's experience, in-country relationships, vulnerability to natural disaster and conflict and the socio-economic operating environment. The greater the identified risk, the higher the level of approval required. Risk ratings are recorded in FFI's global management system, and monitored through internal reporting and adaptive management.

In this project, FFI has identified that potential risks arise from working with government, including corruption, top-down control and personnel change. Our long experience of working in Tajikistan and robust operational and financial management systems are more than sufficient to ensure, for example, appropriate use of project finances. The project design and management processes have taken into account risk and the project approach has been tailored to mitigate and/or minimise these.

FFI is committed to working ethically, legally, and in line with the Bribery Act 2010. FFI practices a zero-tolerance approach to bribery and corruption and has a specific Anti-Bribery Policy (available on request). We are now considering the latest guidance from the Charity Commission on counter-fraud measures and reviewing our policies and procedures in light of this.

PROJECT MONITORING AND EVALUATION

MEASURING IMPACT

24. LOGICAL FRAMEWORK

Darwin projects will be required to report against their progress towards their expected outputs and outcomes if funded. This section sets out the expected outputs and outcomes of your project, how you expect to measure progress against these and how we can verify this.

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
<p>Impact: (Max 30 words) Healthy and diverse Tajik fruit-and-nut forests provide agro-biodiversity goods and ecosystem services, and are sustainably conserved, used and collaboratively managed by local stakeholders, contributing to poverty alleviation and increased resilience.</p>			
<p>Outcome: (Max 30 words) Forest users at Childukhtaron and Dashtijum empowered and incentivised to work collaboratively with forest service to enhance fruit-and-nut forest management: conserving agro-biodiversity, improving well-being and increasing resilience to climate change.</p>	<p>0.1 Members of 25% of the total 695 households at project sites are engaged and active in forest conservation by Year 4 (40 HH by end Year 1; 80 HH by end Year 2; 120 HH by end Year 3; 175 by end Year 4).</p> <p>0.2 Diversity of planting in forest increased by 50% by Year 4 (by 50% in nurseries by Year 2), including all identified local native varieties, preserving genetic diversity of wild crop relatives.</p> <p>0.3 Number of individuals of 3 threatened tree species (including 2 CR <i>Pyrus</i>) at project sites increased four-fold from known current baseline.</p> <p>0.4 Male and female members of 120 participating households report 10% increase in income from Year 1 baseline by Year 4 as a result of project activities.</p> <p>0.5 At end of project 50% of both male</p>	<p>0.1 Stakeholder survey, activity records/ project updates, meeting attendance records.</p> <p>0.2 Nursery and planting records, baseline surveys and forest monitoring, local forest service annual report to Forestry Agency.</p> <p>0.3 Planting records, monitoring reports.</p> <p>0.4 Household survey in Years 1 & 4, participatory impact assessment report.</p> <p>0.5 Interview records, participatory</p>	<p>Government policy continues to permit collaborative forest management and greater practical involvement of local forest users.</p> <p>Substantial numbers of forest users are willing and able to engage in conservation and management.</p> <p>Market for fruit and nut products (e.g. dried fruit, compote, oils) continues to grow (trend is currently upwards) and new product and market opportunities can be identified.</p> <p>Income from non NTFP sources does not significantly change during project period.</p> <p>Local forest service remains interested and open to learning and collaboration (we currently have very positive relationship with both forestry units).</p> <p>No major economic or political crises in Tajikistan.</p>

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
	<p>and female respondents feel they now have an increased stake in the management of their local forest resources, compared with project start.</p> <p>0.6 Approved reforestation and Species Action Plans reflect climate change predictions and include appropriate adaptation measures to increase resilience which are being implemented.</p>	<p>impact assessment report.</p> <p>0.6 Plan documents, climate change risk assessments.</p>	
<p>Outputs:</p> <p>1. Project team and local and national stakeholders have increased knowledge and understanding of forest habitats, including agro-biodiversity and key species, and likely impacts of climate change, and are engaged in participatory forest monitoring.</p>	<p>1.1 Baseline habitat and botanical surveys undertaken at both project sites in Year 1, incorporating local knowledge on agro-biodiversity.</p> <p>1.2 Species Action Plans for three Red List tree species (two CR <i>Pyrus</i>) developed in Year 2 and actions being implemented by Year 4.</p> <p>1.3 Participatory monitoring scheme developed in Year 2, designed to pick-up climate, anthropogenic and management induced change, and data collected through joint implementation by forest service and community members in Years 2, 3 & 4.</p> <p>1.4 In Year 4, 20 Forestry Agency and other national stakeholders have attended dissemination workshops held to share knowledge outputs, and are aware of and understand project approaches and results for potential replication.</p>	<p>1.1 Survey reports, GPS tracks, local knowledge interview records.</p> <p>1.2 Action plan documents; Year 4 progress review/survey/activity records.</p> <p>1.3 Monitoring protocol document, climate change risk assessment, consultation meeting reports, patrol records, collected data, reports.</p> <p>1.4 Workshop presentations, participant lists, meeting report, workshop feedback surveys (participants report an increase in knowledge).</p>	<p>Forest users willing to share local knowledge on varieties.</p> <p>Survey team able to integrate local knowledge into ecological survey methods.</p> <p>Adequate and sustainable incentives can be found for forest users to take part in participatory monitoring; and they have time to do so.</p> <p>Local forest service willing to commit effort to joint monitoring (they have indicated that they are in discussions with project team).</p>

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
<p>2. Local market actors supported to implement activities identified through Participatory Market System Development (PMSD) to improve income from fruit and nuts (NTFPs).</p>	<p>2.1 Steps 1 – 7 in the PMSD roadmap⁴ completed with market actors for Dashtijum in Year 1 and locally specific actions identified.</p> <p>2.2 Producer cooperatives established in Childukhtaron in Year 1 and Dashtijum in Year 2 with a total of 120 active members (at least 50% female) by Year 4.</p> <p>2.3 By end of year 4, 300 local collectors (at least 60% female) trained and applying new skills to sustainably harvest, process and sell NTFPs and increase sales value of fruit and nut products (e.g. dried fruit, compote, oils from nuts and seeds): 80 in Year 1; 120 in Year 2; 100 in Year 3.</p> <p>2.4 50% of respondents report that participation in savings groups has increased their ability to cope with shocks and lean months and enabled them to invest, including in improved NTFP techniques, by Year 4.</p> <p>2.5 Multi-dimensional well-being benefits explored, understood and captured through Participatory Impact Assessment (PIA) with gender-disaggregated data, in Year 4.</p>	<p>2.1 Workshop reports, attendance records and participants feedback; Action Plan document.</p> <p>2.2 Official documentation (Charter) for cooperatives, membership rolls, equipment purchased, activity and sales records.</p> <p>2.3 Training attendance records, follow-up survey of attendees (whether they are using new skills).</p> <p>2.4 Semi-structured interview and focal group records; PIA report.</p> <p>2.5 Semi-structured interview and focal group records; PIA report.</p>	<p>Market actors (e.g. traders, processors) see the value of, and are willing to engage in, participatory market mapping - we will cultivate relationships to ensure this happens.</p> <p>Women as well as men feel able to join and engage meaningfully in producer cooperatives (project coordinators will empower and encourage women's participation).</p> <p>Trained collectors are able to apply new knowledge and skills to improve product quality and/ or market access.</p> <p>Actions taken, e.g. to improve product, will result in significant increase in price – we do have evidence that better quality dried fruit commands a higher price.</p>
<p>3. Community forest users (women and men) and two forest service units enhancing forest management and promoting resilience to climate change.</p>	<p>3.1 300 people report an increased awareness of climate change and the importance of forest agro-biodiversity in climate resilience (100 by end of Year 1;</p>	<p>3.1 Knowledge and attitude survey, awareness event records.</p>	<p>Significant climate proofing is possible given limited resources.</p> <p>Stakeholders willing to formalise relationship and meet regularly.</p>

⁴ <http://www.pmsdroadmap.org/>

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
	<p>200 by end Year 2; 300 by end Year 3).</p> <p>3.2 Strategic, climate-proofed, reforestation plan developed for both project sites by Year 2 and priority actions being implemented by Year 4.</p> <p>3.3. Local stakeholder fora established and meeting quarterly at both project sites by Year 2 with membership comprising at least 40% women and 15% from poorer households. By Year 4 at least 60% of both male and female forum members feel they are more able to influence forest management compared with project start.</p> <p>3.4 60 local forest users taking actions to protect trees in their lease plots (20 by end of Year 2; 40 by end Year 3; 60 by end Year 4).</p> <p>3.5 Over 400,000 native trees grown in nurseries and planted out in priority locations by Year 4.</p>	<p>3.2 Plan documents, climate change risk assessment, activity reports, photos, local forest service annual report to Forestry Agency</p> <p>3.3 Forum terms of reference, meeting attendance records and minutes, knowledge and perception survey, PIA report.</p> <p>3.4 Activity records, photos, Year 4 survey of plots (baseline measured when action agreed).</p> <p>3.5 Nursery and planting records, photos, local forest service annual report to Forestry Agency.</p>	<p>Forest users willing and able to protect trees in their plots.</p> <p>Given adequate resources, sourcing of seedlings with increased variety is possible.</p>
<p>Activities (each activity is numbered according to the output that it will contribute towards, for example 1.1, 1.2 and 1.3 are contributing to Output 1)</p> <p>1.1 Conduct habitat and botanical surveys to update (currently weak) baseline biodiversity data for sites and key species at Childukhtaron and Dashtijum</p> <p>1.2 Conduct interviews to collect local knowledge of agro-biodiversity</p> <p>1.3 Collate data to help establish sustainable harvest levels for key species</p> <p>1.4 Produce and disseminate survey reports (in Russian, Tajik and English)</p> <p>1.5 Compile information on likely climate change impacts on forest ecosystem/ tree species, both from scientific community/ literature and community vulnerability assessments; develop climate change risk assessments for the sites</p> <p>1.6 Workshops with specialists and local stakeholders to develop Species Action Plans for three Red-List trees (two CR <i>Pyrus</i> species); produce and disseminate plan documents</p> <p>1.7 Agree protocol for participatory forest monitoring scheme with forest service and communities</p> <p>1.8 Implement monitoring: patrols collect data as per agreed protocol</p> <p>1.9 Monitoring data collated, analysed and reported to forest service and local stakeholders (including community forest monitors)</p> <p>1.10 Workshop to disseminate research and learning to local and national Forest Agency and interested stakeholders.</p>			

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
<p>2.1 Preliminary work to start the Participatory Market System Development process for Dashtijum in consultation with community representatives and project partners: identification of appropriate products, preliminary market mapping and strategic design, identifying and engaging key market actors (preliminary steps of PMSD roadmap – http://www.pmsdroadmap.org/).</p> <p>2.2 Small community workshops to empower marginalised market actors (local NTFP collectors in the villages of Dashtijum and Childukhtaron) and prepare them to engage with other market actors in the next steps - with a particular emphasis on women (separate groups if necessary).</p> <p>2.3 Facilitate participatory market mapping at workshops with representatives of all market actors (collectors, local traders, processors, ‘big’ traders, input providers), help the community members to develop stronger links with traders and processors; followed by participatory planning – resulting in action plans.</p> <p>2.4 Support the two communities to establish producer cooperatives, ensuring active participation of women.</p> <p>2.5 Run (minimum) 15 practical training events for local women and men involved in fruit and nut collection, processing and sale - provide follow-up support through producer cooperatives to improve product quality through enhanced local processing techniques.</p> <p>2.6 Provide locally appropriate equipment (identified in PMSD action plans) to producer cooperatives to improve processing at local level – for example, this might be drying racks or packaging machine.</p> <p>2.7 Research and explore potential for overseas markets and innovative products; follow-up as appropriate.</p> <p>2.8 Set up and support at least three local women’s saving groups in villages in Childukhtaron, based on and learning from successful model in Dashtijum (initiated by Save the Children)</p> <p>2.9 Conduct Participatory Impact Assessment (PIA): semi-structured interviews and focal group discussions with women and men to explore the impact the project has really had on participant’s lives (using our experience from Darwin post-project in Kyrgyzstan).</p> <p>3.1 Run 16 awareness raising events: seminars for women and men and school activities for children on various topics: biodiversity, climate change, agro-biodiversity and sustainable harvesting.</p> <p>3.2 Organise four community harvest-time festivals to celebrate the forest, its biodiversity and fruit and nut products</p> <p>3.3 Conduct at least four climate adaptation planning workshops with community groups (replicating and learning from activity in Darwin Initiative post-project in Kyrgyzstan): exploring together the likely impacts of climate change, assessing vulnerabilities, and identifying feasible adaptation measures for local stakeholders.</p> <p>3.4 Following on from activities 1.1 – 1.5, develop strategic, climate-proofed, reforestation plans for both sites jointly with the forest service and other stakeholders, identifying strategic sites for planting (to improve connectivity, reduce risk of erosion/ landslides) and appropriate resilient species and varieties.</p> <p>3.5 Establish stakeholder forum at each site; ensure members are representative of the different groups within the forest user community (including those with more marginal use rights and women); facilitate regular meetings to enable discussions on forest management, conservation and sustainable use issues; provide mediation if necessary; and promote collaborative planning and implementation of actions.</p> <p>3.6 Work with local forest leaseholders to protect trees in their forest plots, through fencing and other means.</p> <p>3.7 Support local forest service and community groups to grow native fruit and nut trees in nurseries for planting in forest and gardens, promoting diversity of species and local varieties to maintain agro-biodiversity (seed to be collected locally wherever possible) – minimum of two forest service nurseries and two community nurseries.</p> <p>3.8 Support forest service teams to plant 400,000 native trees (10+ species) in protected and strategic locations in Childukhtaron and Dashtijum to reinforce natural populations, including aftercare and monitoring survival.</p>			

25. Provide a project implementation timetable that shows the key milestones in project activities. Complete the following table as appropriate to describe the intended workplan for your project (Q1 starting April 2017)

Please add/remove columns to reflect the length of your project. For each activity (add/remove rows as appropriate) indicate the number of months it will last, and shade only the quarters in which an activity will be carried out. The workplan can span multiple pages if necessary.

Activity	No. of months	Year 1				Year 2				Year 3				Year 4			
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Output 1	Project team, local and national stakeholders have increased knowledge and understanding of forest habitats, agro-biodiversity, key species, impacts of climate change, and are engaged in participatory forest monitoring																
1.1	Conduct habitat and botanical surveys at Childukhtaron and Dashtijum	6															
1.2	Conduct interviews to collect local knowledge of agro-biodiversity	2															
1.3	Collate data to help establish sustainable harvest levels for key species	4															
1.4	Produce and disseminate survey reports (in Tajik / Russian and English)	3															
1.5	Compile information on climate change impacts on forest ecosystem/ tree species; develop climate change risk assessments for the project sites	6															
1.6	Develop Species Action Plans for three Red-List trees	3															
1.7	Agree protocol for participatory forest monitoring scheme	3															
1.8	Implement monitoring: patrols collect data as per agreed protocol	36															
1.9	Monitoring data collated, analysed and reported	6															
1.10	Workshop to disseminate research and learning to Forest Agency and others	2															

Activity	No. of months	Year 1				Year 2				Year 3				Year 4			
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Output 2	Local market actors supported to implement activities identified through Participatory Market System Development (PMSD) to improve income from fruit and nuts (NTFPs)																
2.1	Preliminary steps of PMSD process for Dashtijum: identification of products, preliminary market mapping, identifying and engaging key market actors	4															
2.2	Community workshops to empower local market actors (NTFP collectors)	3															
2.3	Participatory market mapping and planning with market actors	6															
2.4	Support the two communities to establish producer cooperatives	12															
2.5	Run 15 practical training events on fruit and nut processing and sale; follow-up support to improve product quality	9															
2.6	Provide equipment to producer cooperatives to improve processing	3															
2.7	Explore potential for overseas markets and innovative products; follow-up as appropriate	3 (plus follow-up)															
2.8	Set up and initially support 3 local women's saving groups in Childukhtaron	3															
2.9	Conduct PIA: semi-structured interviews and focal group discussions	3															
Output 3	Community forest users (women and men) and two forest service units enhancing forest management and promoting resilience to climate change.																
3.1	Run 16 awareness raising events: community seminars and school activities	9															

Activity	No. of months	Year 1				Year 2				Year 3				Year 4			
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
3.2 Organise 4 community harvest-time festivals to celebrate the forest	3		■	■							■	■					
3.3 Conduct 4 climate adaptation planning workshops with community groups	2					■	■										
3.4 Develop strategic, climate-proofed, reforestation plans for both sites	6						■	■	■								
3.5 Establish stakeholder forum at each site; facilitate regular meetings	2					■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
3.6 Work with local forest leaseholders to protect trees in their forest plots	9					■		■		■		■		■		■	
3.7 Support 2 forest service and 2 community nurseries to grow native fruit & nut trees	24		■	■		■	■			■	■	■		■	■	■	
3.8 Support forest service teams to plant 400,000 native trees (10+ species)	12					■		■		■		■		■		■	

26. Project based monitoring and evaluation (M&E)

Describe, referring to the Indicators above, how the progress of the project will be monitored and evaluated, making reference to who is responsible for the project's M&E. Darwin Initiative projects are expected to be adaptive and you should detail how the monitoring and evaluation will feed into the delivery of the project including its management. M&E is expected to be built into the project and not an 'add' on. It is as important to measure for negative impacts as it is for positive impact.

(Max 500 words)

The project team will assess progress and impact through on-going monitoring and overall project evaluation. FFI has responsibility for M&E which will be conducted in a participatory fashion, involving both project partners and the community beneficiaries. A Project Steering Group, with a representative from each partner, will oversee implementation, meeting six-monthly to review progress against the workplan and output indicators. This regular analysis and dissemination of M&E information will inform adaptive management of the project to identify challenges, issues and successes early and enable the project team to adapt approaches to ensure the project achieves intended outcomes. Each partner organisation will be responsible for monitoring and maintaining records of activity outputs including numbers of community participants, disaggregated by gender; the project manager will be responsible for collating this data.

The baseline habitat and botanical surveys and ongoing participatory monitoring will provide information to measure impact on the forest and biodiversity. A simple monitoring programme will be developed, based on transects, permanent plots, and photo-monitoring, for the forest service and community to measure human impact indicators (e.g. cut trees, livestock faeces), regeneration (numbers of seedlings), and forest composition and condition. This will help track progress towards Outputs 1&2 and Outcome indicators. The project team will also build local capacity to collate and analyse the data collected, which is currently absent.

Well-being indicators for Outputs 2 and 3 and the Outcome will be assessed using two methods, to validate and better understand the impact. Project coordinators will conduct household surveys at the start and end of the project with a sample of those participating in the market-system activities. A participatory evaluation of the socio-economic, livelihoods and capacity impacts will be undertaken at the end of the project. This will use the 'Participatory Impact Assessment' (PIA) approach working with local stakeholders to identify and evaluate the impact of changes in the community attributable to the project actions, and what difference these changes have made to the lives of women and men. The PIA we conducted in Kyrgyzstan for post-project EIDPO043 captured a wide range of changes: increased confidence, initiative and motivation; improved knowledge and skills; increased income; widening of horizons; improved relationships and greater respect from others. DI's Closed Project Evaluation recognised the PIA as doing "a thorough job of capturing the project's impact on wellbeing".

The impact of the training will be assessed both through post workshop questionnaires (where the participants identify the new ideas and skills learnt) and follow-up interviews 6 – 12 months later. The later evaluation will be conducted by the project coordinator, and target a random selection of training participants to assess how useful the newly acquired knowledge and skills have been to them, what has been put into practice since the training, and what difference this has made.

At the end of the project, a review meeting will examine and document the impacts and lessons learned, in order to inform other projects as well as future activities in this region.

Number of days planned for M&E	177 (includes participatory forest monitoring)
Total project budget for M&E	£22,230
Percentage of total project budget set aside for M&E	5.8%

FUNDING AND BUDGET

Please complete the separate Excel spreadsheet which provides the Budget for this application. Some of the questions earlier and below refer to the information in this spreadsheet. You should also ensure you have read the 'Finance for Darwin' document and considered the implications of payment points for cashflow purposes.

NB: The Darwin Initiative cannot agree any increase in grants once awarded.

27. Value for Money

Please explain how you worked out your budget and how you will provide value for money through managing a cost effective and efficient project. You should also discuss any significant assumptions you have made when working out your budget.

(max 300 words)

FFI and its partners in Tajikistan have experience in developing project budgets and have used past practice to inform the development of the current proposal budget, for example the amount of personnel time required, cost of travel to and around the project sites etc. Whilst each partner will be responsible for managing their portion of the funds to ensure their activities are successfully delivered, overall financial monitoring will be the responsibility of FFI. Partners will be expected to produce biannual financial reports against the budget.

In general, FFI manages its operations tightly and in 2015, 82% of total expenditure was directed at delivering and supporting its programme of work, with careful control exerted over support costs to be able to achieve this. Support costs include operational staff, office costs, audit fees and fundraising spend. FFI recently achieved a US government compliant indirect cost value of 18%, which provides evidence for our good value for money and desire to maintain maximum spend for direct conservation purposes.

FFI has a strong ethos of good value for money, and in Tajikistan we have communicated this to our partners as well. Funding is always spent with due care to maximising impact without wasting money, for example in choice of accommodation, workshop venues etc. As part of the adaptive management approach, if necessary and appropriate funds will be reallocated between budget lines to ensure most effective delivery (particularly if money can be saved on operational costs, and spent on community and field activities instead). Darwin Initiative approval would of course be sought in advance.

28. Capital items

If you plan to purchase capital items with Darwin funding, please indicate what you anticipate will happen to the items following project end.

(max 150 words)

The fruit drying and processing equipment will be officially handed over to the community cooperatives.

FCO NOTIFICATIONS

Please check the box if you think that there are sensitivities that the Foreign and Commonwealth Office will need to be aware of should they want to publicise the project's success in the Darwin competition in the host country.

Please indicate whether you have contacted your Foreign Ministry or the local embassy or High Commission (or equivalent) directly to discuss security issues (see Guidance) and attach details of any advice you have received from them.

Yes (no written advice) **Yes, advice attached** **No**

CERTIFICATION

On behalf of the company of Fauna & Flora International
 (*delete as appropriate)

I apply for a grant of £383,708 in respect of **all expenditure** to be incurred during the lifetime of this project based on the activities and dates specified in the above application.

I certify that, to the best of our knowledge and belief, the statements made by us in this application are true and the information provided is correct. I am aware that this application form will form the basis of the project schedule should this application be successful.

(This form should be signed by an individual authorised by the applicant institution to submit applications and sign contracts on their behalf.)

- I enclose CVs for key project personnel and letters of support.
- I enclose our most recent signed audited/independently verified accounts and annual reports

Name (block capitals)	Rosalind Aveling
Position in the organisation	Deputy Chief Executive

Signed** PDF **Date:** 5 December 2016

If this section is incomplete or not completed correctly the entire application will be rejected. You must provide a real (not typed) signature. You may include a pdf of the signature page for security reasons if you wish. Please write PDF in the signature section above if you do so.

Stage 2 Application – Checklist for submission

	Check
Have you read the Guidance ?	√
Have you read and can you meet the current Terms and Conditions for this fund?	√
Have you provided actual start and end dates for your project?	√
Have you provided your budget based on UK government financial years i.e. 1 April – 31 March and in GBP?	√
Have you checked that your budget is complete , correctly adds up and that you have included the correct final total on the top page of the application?	√
Has your application been signed by a suitably authorised individual ? (clear electronic or scanned signatures are acceptable)	√
Have you included a 1 page CV for all the key project personnel identified at Question 10?	√
Have you included a letter of support from your key partner organisations identified at Question 9?	√
Have you been in contact with the FCO in the project country/ies and have you included any evidence of this?	√
Have you included a signed copy of the last 2 years annual report and accounts for the lead organisation?	√
Have you checked the Darwin website immediately prior to submission to ensure there are no late updates?	√

Once you have answered the questions above, please submit the application, not later than 2359 GMT on Monday 5 December 2016 to Darwin-Applications@ltsi.co.uk using the application number (from your Stage 1 feedback letter) and the first few words of the project title **as the subject of your email**. If you are e-mailing supporting documentation separately please include in the subject line an indication of the number of e-mails you are sending (eg whether the e-mail is 1 of 2, 2 of 3 etc). You are not required to send a hard copy.

DATA PROTECTION ACT 1998: Applicants for grant funding must agree to any disclosure or exchange of information supplied on the application form (including the content of a declaration or undertaking) which the Department considers necessary for the administration, evaluation, monitoring and publicising of the Darwin Initiative. Application form data will also be held by contractors dealing with Darwin Initiative monitoring and evaluation. It is the responsibility of applicants to ensure that personal data can be supplied to the Department for the uses described in this paragraph. A completed application form will be taken as an agreement by the applicant and the grant/award recipient also to the following:- putting certain details (ie name, contact details and location of project work) on the Darwin Initiative and Defra websites (details relating to financial awards will not be put on the websites if requested in writing by the grant/award recipient); using personal data for the Darwin Initiative postal circulation list; and sending data to Foreign and Commonwealth Office posts outside the United Kingdom, including posts outside the European Economic Area. Confidential information relating to the project or its results and any personal data may be released on request, including under the Environmental Information Regulations, the code of Practice on Access to Government Information and the Freedom of Information Act 2000.